

News resumes oil transit thru Syria

AMMAN, Feb. 9 (R)—Iraq will resume pumping its oil to the west through Syria under an agreement signed today, the Agency (INA) reported. Iraq stopped using the Syrian oil exports in April, 1976, after relations between the two countries deteriorated. The agreement provides for exports of Iraqi crude to Syria. The volume of resumed pumping was not disclosed. INA said neighbours also signed two other agreements for cooperation in industry, including prospecting, oilfield development, refinery distribution. Syria and Iraq have pledged to work for unity and have already concluded a mutual defence pact after providing for cooperation in political, cultural and

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tempt to save Bhutto

BAD, Feb. 9 (R)—Supporters of condemned former Prime

Zulfikar Ali Bhutto today demanded the recall of two

former Israeli

the Supreme Court for the last stage of his legal battle to

underground gallows.

radio reported

Central Executive Committee of his Pakistan Peoples Party

met head of the

express his opinion on Mr. Bhutto's appeal against the

governor of the

newspaper. For a

convicted of ordering the assassination of a political oppo-

ed a people

he could be hanged any time from next Thursday morning

years ago. His appeal was rejected last Tuesday by a

the day after

the doctor

the court

could proceed without

knowing further

PFLP for a greater say in Palest-

inian policy-making. At present

Yasser Arafat's Fatah, the biggest

commando group, dominates the

executive Committee of the Palest-

ine Liberation Organisation

(PLO).

The statement called for the

resumption of talks among Palest-

inian groups "in order to correct

the wrong decisions in the

National Council meetings."

The PNC meeting had failed in

the first step towards establishing

unity: the statement said and

stressed "the necessity of uniting

the national Palestinian groups."

If made clear that the PFLP was

sticking to its demands for greater

representation throughout the

PLO and on its Executive Com-

mittee.

The PFLP withdrew from the

Executive Committee four years

ago in protest against its relatively

moderate policies. It had been

expected to rejoin the body at the

PNC meeting but negotiations to

this effect ended inconclusively.

Arab exposes Israeli torture

BEIRUT, Feb. 9 (R)—A Leba-

nese released yesterday by Israel

was quoted today as accusing

Israeli interrogators of torturing

him during his 11 months in cap-

tivity.

The man, Yousef Rameh

Hamadah, told the independent

Beirut newspaper An Nahar he

had been captured in South Leba-

non during the Israeli invasion of

the area last March.

Mr. Nahar quoted him as saying

his hands and legs were tied to his

neck while he was questioned

about Palestinian commando bases in Lebanon.

He told An Nahar the Israeli

beat him with clubs and rifle butts,

and applied electric shocks to all

parts of his body.

His accusations came two days

after the U.S. State Department

said it had credible reports that

Israel mistreated Arab detainees.

In Tel Aviv, it was learnt yes-

terday that Israel released 14

Lebanese prisoners captured dur-

ing the army's drive into South

Lebanon 11 months ago.

The prisoners were handed over

to officials of the International

Red Cross at the Ras Nakura

border post.

Palestinian commandos in

Lebanon are still holding one

Israeli prisoner, Avraham

Amram.

The dates for the visit were

being finalised, a ministry

spokesman said.

But Mr. Kosygin will be in New

Delhi shortly after External

Affairs Minister Atal Bihari Vaj-

payee returns from an official visit

to China starting on Monday.

The Soviet Premier was invited

by Prime Minister Morarji Desai

when the Indian leader visited the

Soviet Union last October.

The Indian Express newspaper

today linked the visit with Mr.

Vajpayee's trip to China, stating

that "Moscow wants to know how

friendly New Delhi will be to Pek-

ing."

Mr. Vajpayee's eight-day visit

will be the first by an Indian minis-

ter since the 1962 border war be-

tween China and India.

Despite growing trade and cul-

tical exchanges, the main barrier

to normal relations between India

and China is the dispute over part

of the remote Ladakh region in

Kashmir which India claims China

has occupied illegally.

Mr. Vajpayee will spend three

days in Peking talking to Chinese

leaders during which the border

issue is expected to figure prom-

inently.

Diplomats here said they felt

that the Soviet Premier's visit was

also significant in the context of

India's reluctance to recognise the

new administration in Kampuchea

(Cambodia) until there was evi-

dence that it was in full control of

the country.

The Indian Express said Mos-

cow suspected that India was delay-

ing the recognition because it had

"suddenly become conscious of

China's susceptibilities."

JANKS AND APPRECIATION

Dabbas family would like to express their thanks and appreciation to ambassadors accredited to Jordan, as well as members of the embassy staff, for their kind condolences offered on behalf of our kinsman, the late

Abdul Razzaq Nimer Dabbas, father of Minister of Finance Mohammad Dabbas.

hope that these words be considered as al thanks addressed to each of them.

Many moderate Arab states regard the political tur-

moil in Iran as the latest sign of U.S. ineffectiveness and

lack of commitment to traditional allies around the globe—from Africa, through Afghanistan to Taiwan.

Saudi Arabia is reported to be particularly apprehensive about U.S. ability to

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Consult the people

THE EYES OF THE WORLD are on Iran, awaiting the birth of a fledgling democracy, the outbreak of a monstrous civil war, or the creation of an Islamic republic. The three alternatives are not necessarily mutually exclusive.

The apprehension that has gripped many world capitals is due to the fact that regardless of how the scales tip, the outcome is a big unknown. The idea of an Islamic republic, in particular, is shrouded in mystery. For many Westerners, the notion evokes images of public floggings, the amputation of hands, the stoning of adulterers and a prohibition on the sale of alcoholic drinks.

If the followers of Ayatollah Khomeini fancy that the ills of industrial society can be cured by segregating men from women in the factories, herding people into mosques like sheep or punishing those who do not fast during Ramadan, then they are in for a rude shock. Nor will burning Iran's bridges with the West solve the country's problems.

If, on the other hand, ideas have been crystallising in Khomeini's mind during the long years of exile, if he has an alternative to the consumer society and to economic growth as an end in itself, then by all means let's hear it. An Islamic state need not be synonymous with a list of prohibitions. If he has devised a way to combat the phenomenon of alienation that is now dominant in industrialised societies and to inject meaning into work on the assembly line, if he has goals for people to work for other than changing the system of government in Iran, then he owes it to the Iranian people to announce his ideas before holding the referendum that the head of his shadow cabinet, Mr. Mehdi Bazargan, is now advocating.

The concept of an Islamic system of banking is already being explored and financial institutions are being set up in Arab countries to function on the basis of sharing profits rather than charging interest on loans. If an Islamic republic can evolve a new economic system, with its own brand of social relations and its own tenets of human rights, based on the teachings of Islam, then it could be a momentous contribution. But the Iranian people should not be asked to buy a big unknown.

Khomeini's autocratic demeanor has aroused fears that an Islamic republic might spell dictatorship. Yet verbal intransigence is preferable to the language of the gun. Khomeini's followers have been remarkably peaceful, his "revolution" has been based on civil disobedience rather than guerrilla warfare and acts of violence: the record of his movement is almost pristine to date. If that is an indication of things to come, then the world might be in for a pleasant surprise.

Without being overly sanguine, one must note that both Mr. Bazargan and Iran's Prime Minister, Mr. Shahpour Bakhtiar, have latched on to an idea that might be the salvation of the country from the ravages of civil war. Mr. Bazargan is speaking of elections for a constituent assembly and a parliament after the proposed referendum, and Mr. Bakhtiar is also advocating free elections--although not for the immediate future--to determine the fate of Iran. While one must be forgiven a dose of scepticism in the face of such lofty dedication to democracy, it remains true that to consult the people is the best solution: if democracy prevails, then Iran, and the whole world, will be better off for the experience. But to put it off for too long may well spell disaster.

ARAB PRESS COMMENTARY

As a descendant of the great Prophet of Islam, His Majesty King Hussein in his opportune speech Thursday wanted to remind us that our nation is in need of a comprehensive intellectual and spiritual renaissance to govern our march forward and steer us on the road to development and progress. AL RA'IS says in an editorial Friday. The King was speaking on the occasion of Prophet Mohammad's birthday.

The Arab Nation today faces dreadful challenges of various kinds as well as a fierce onslaught by forces of unfaithfulness and demoralisation. By its geographical position and vast natural resources it represents a target for hostile and ferocious forces, notably the expansionist Zionist movement embodied by the Israeli entity, the newspaper says.

Al Rai calls on the Arab Nation, "before anybody else, to thwart these challenges and make its divine ideology a basis for a national awakening on the road to prosperity, social justice and a brighter future."

AL DUSTOUR stresses King Hussein's remarks that Jordan is deeply rooted in the high ideals of the great Arab Revolution led by his great grandfather King Hussein Ibn Ali. Jordan, therefore is merited and qualified to become a beacon projecting the King's "historic" call which ought to be fully understood and responded to by the Arabs and Muslims in order that they play their role in civilisation-making and have an effective weight in warding off the calamities that threaten our contemporary world, the newspaper writes.

GOT SOMETHING ON
YOUR MIND?

LET THE JORDAN TIMES HEAR ABOUT

IT
WRITE TO: P.O.BOX 6710

Amman foreign high school students learn by correspondence in a basement, and enjoy it

By Thomas Cromwell
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN--What is a basement that is a school, but isn't, that has students but no teacher, desks but no blackboard, courses but no classes, a co-ed basketball team with no court, and yet produces a newsletter and graduates?

You may not have guessed it, but it's the Amman Correspondence High School, located in its third home since it was begun in September, 1975, in the basement of the home of Colonel Thompson, the military attaché at the U.S. embassy. The desks are occupied by 11 students from four nations who are studying individual programmes on the way to getting their high school diplomas.

The high school was set up to fill the educational gap left by the American Community School which only provides instruction through the ninth grade. Before its organisation there was no local provision for high school students. They would either have to go abroad to boarding schools, enrol in local high schools or take correspondence courses individually. Now they have the advantage of working together in a school-like environment, receiving instruction and guidance.

The first effort for a correspondence high school was made at the American Community School where, in 1975, a small storage room was set aside for the first two students. A larger room at the school was found

Rima Khoury has already been accepted at George Washington University.

when the group grew to five.

When the American Community School later abandoned the project, the students and their parents were left to fend for themselves. This they have done admirably well with the help of friends like Col. Thompson, whose basement became the new makeshift classroom. Fifteen students were working their way through high school by correspondence last year taking advantage of such "improved facilities and putting in a great deal of determination to succeed on their own part."

The students face a problem in the near future, however, as Col. Thompson is about to be transferred. The students are on the lookout for a new friend who can provide them with a place where the school can meet.

The daily classroom schedule runs from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. five days a week. Trips to the local store, card games, listening to the radio, and chatting provide respite from the academic activity and help create the feeling of group involvement.

The students are supervised by Elizabeth Dobler, a medical technician who last year worked at the University of Jordan Hospital before being asked by parents of high school students to take over as supervisor. Her background in science is particularly useful as many of the students have problems in this area. For other difficult subjects, such as language, she refers them to qualified teachers or institutes in Amman.

Mrs. Dobler was approved for the job by the University of Nebraska Extension Division that runs the correspondence courses. The university supplies all the materials and tests, and issues the dip-

lomas to certifying students. In addition to administering the tests (which may be as many as ten per course plus a final exam), Mrs. Dobler sets deadlines for the students. She makes sure they keep up with their lessons which should include two to three hours homework daily, and she gives as much personal help with the courses as she is able to.

Mrs. Dobler enjoys her work. "When I started I thought it would be like babysitting with a bunch of kids. Now I really enjoy it. The students always come and generally work hard."

One reason for good attendance is the close social contact they get from studying together. "They are very tight," Mrs. Dobler explained.

To develop this aspect of the school, several activities have been organised with more planned in the future. The whole group has gone on field trips to the Hotel Training School, Jordan Radio and TV, RSS, Alia Catering at the airport, the U.S. Embassy (where they met the ambassador), and the UNRWA medical clinic at a Palestinian camp.

They enjoy these trips a lot. "Besides a break, we feel this is something they need to know about the country they're living in. It's part of their education," Mrs. Dobler pointed out.

Also, the students often meet for parties or go to discos together. Some of them square dance once or twice a week. They have put on dances at a couple of occasions and tried to generate wider interest. Some of them have part time jobs.

The hottest development, however, is the basketball team, called the AHS UNOS after the name of a card game popular at the school and because it means No. 1. Their bright red, white and blue uniforms were donated by a foreign company with offices in Amman. Their first contest against the American Community School team, the Eagles, was a great success, a 41-35 win. The four boys and two girls on the team, coached by Jordanian Emad Faroun, are presently looking for more teams to beat.

Nearly all the students have done at least part of their high school work in other countries. Most would like to be able to finish at a regular high school: "We miss the activities and social life of a normal high school."

On the other hand, the education is very good. Each student must cover all the material in each course because the exam will be set on it. "Since there is no teacher, there is no reduction in material and no favouritism," Mrs. Dobler said. "The system requires the student to take personal responsibility for his work. This is good preparation for college where the same system prevails."

Students agreed with this view: "We get a lot more done and learned because we have to!"

The least amount of time to complete a one semester course is five weeks. The maximum is two years. Normally, two semesters are completed a year, each with four or five courses. Each course completed earns five credits. A minimum of 180 credits are needed to graduate. Courses cost U.S. \$33. Tuition and book costs for one year usually amount to U.S. \$350 to \$400.

The students' parents divide the expense of the Amman school, mainly Mrs. Dobler's salary, equally among themselves in the form of tuition. In this way, costs are kept at a minimum.

Students are able to take college board tests like the Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT) at the American Centre for Oriental Research. Last year an AHS student scored 740 out of 800 in the SAT mathematics exam. He was one of two who graduated last year. Two more will graduate this



Amman Correspondence High School students smiling in a basement. Their supervisor, Mrs. Dobler, is on the left.



The unbeaten UNOS. Back row: (from left) Nimir, Stan, Emad (the coach), Cheryl and Ramzy. In front: Hanneka and Alex.



Students often help one another: (from left) Hanneka is from Holland, Omar from Pakistan, and Alex from America.



Somebody's a rabbit and doesn't know it.

WHAT'S GOING ON

Art Exhibit

An exhibition of paintings by Mohammad Moustafa is on at the Art Gallery, Ministry of Culture and Youth, open from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. and 4:00 to 7:00 p.m.

German Art Exhibit

The Goethe Institute presents a photographic survey of German contemporary art entitled "Photography as Documentation." Open during regular hours. Last day today.

Painting and Drawing Exhibit

An exhibition of paintings and drawings by young artists is on display at the American Centre. Open from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. ending today.

French Film

The French Cultural Centre presents a film by Robert Bresson entitled "Mouchette" at 7:30 p.m. French version with English subtitles.

Armenia-Scene

for the Jordan Times by Pat McDonnell

(Week of Feb. 10-16)

EXHIBITS

Feb. 12: An exhibition featuring the works of Syrian painter Nazir Ismail for one week at the Soviet Cultural

Feb. 14: The French Cultural Centre has done its best in less than a month of presenting an exhibition of Damascene Nazir Ismail, it is staging a one-man exhibition by Turki Mahmud Bey. A 6:30 p.m. reception follows the exhibition.

of Deir Ez-Zor, Mr. Mahmud Bey lived in West of 16 years and studied painting and architecture at Academic Kunst Hochschule. His style can only be described as "Modern Arabesque". Mr. Mahmud Bey has unique technique of mixing oil and acrylics to render a effect. His works are almost baroque in their richness of painted by ornate copper and brass frames. His favourite are stylized Arabic calligraphy and impressionistic

in the desert; I paint the people I know from the Deir Ez-Zor—the bedouin," he said. "I refuse to paint landscapes dominated by a mosque, yet I rely heavily on my ethnic background and perception of it."

words come true as the viewer gazes upon ceramic porcelain large-breasted women in an imaginary geometric form, or looks at a canvas full of abstracted Arabic calligraphy. An actual verse from the Koran: "Dobler, is on the left, view the world as a Westerner; I try to borrow from the Syria, Egypt, Persia, India, China," he said. I portray the eye, not as the lens of a camera does. Nonetheless, I'm into the past, I'm merely taking the best elements and joining it with contemporary art techniques."

Mr. Bey's works hang in the Baghdad Museum of Art and in the Syrian embassies of Washington, D.C., Paris, Rabat and Baghdad. The exhibition will continue

Hours: 10:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.; 4:30 - 7:30 p.m.

ING: "Artists from the Panorama of Etching and titles a show featuring the works of Farid Jorjoss at Al Kabbani through Thursday, Feb. 16. The exhibition is sponsored by the Damascus Fine Arts Syndicate. Hours: 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. daily.

CONCERTS

Feb. 13: An evening of Chopin with Prof. Hanni will be presented at 6 p.m. at the German Democratic Cultural Centre.

AY, Feb. 14: A piano recital by Peter Cooper performs of Bach, Scarlatti, Beethoven, Rachmaninoff, and Scriabin is slated for 6:30 p.m. at Al Kabbani. The pianist is in Syria under auspices of the British

Feb. 15: The Brass Quartet of the Bamberg Symphony of West Germany will perform classical and contemporary at 8:30 p.m. at Al Kabbani Theatre. The acclaimed quartet consists of trumpeters Horst Karl Schmitz and trombonists Willibald Soldner and Michael. In addition to its famed recording, "Brass Brass," the quartet is renowned for several film appearances on TV. The programme includes Altenburg, Couperin, Peur, Bartholomaeus, and Heins. The concert is under auspices of the Institute of Music and the West German Cultural

Feb. 15: Beethoven compositions will be performed by Russian pianist Valentine Belchenko in the Soviet Union. Dr. Samir Daher will open the programme at 6 Music Saloon.

THEATRE

AY, Feb. 10: The Damascus Theatre Group will perform at 8 p.m. at the Damascus Community School. The play was written by James Elroy Flecker, a British dramatist who served as a consul in Beirut during the 20th century. The play is set in Baghdad during of Haroun Al Rashid and as it develops, it evolves from a comedy into a moving tragedy. Bob Straker-Cook is of the show starring Dennis Michael as Hassan, Jim as Caliph Haroun Al Rashid, Yvonne Grimes as Yasmin Hankins as Persepolis.

ING: The National Theatre of Syria is going into its of Mamoud Adwan's version of "Man of La Mancha" Zinat Kousha as Don Quixote. Performances are 8:30 p.m. except Friday at Al Hamra Theatre. Tharath cast as Dulcinea, Abu Salam Al Tai is Sancho. The director of the musical-orchestration and may have been pre-recorded (in Arabic).

VIDEO-TAPED PROGRAMME

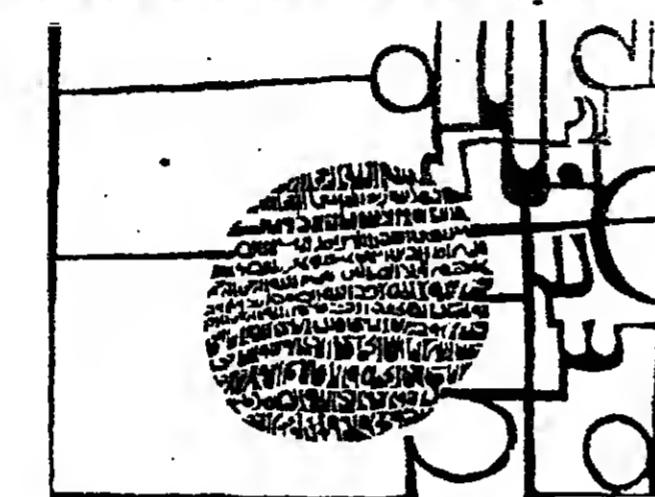
Feb. 16: "Moliere," Part I will be presented at 6:30 and at the French Cultural Centre (in French).

ENTERTAINMENT

Feb. 11: Petite songstress-comedienne Annie Belgium starts a three-week run at the rooftop supper



"Three Sisters of Deir Ez-Zor" titles this oil painting in metallic blues, gold, aqua and electric pink by Turki Mahmud Bey.



A sun of stylized Arabic calligraphy is in the foreground of a geometricized Syria city-scape by Turki Mahmud Bey.



Mr. Turki Mahmud Bey

club of the Meridien Hotel. A fine singer in her own inimitable style, Ms. Duparc excels at imitations of such notables as Marlene Dietrich. Her takeoff on the singing of Edith Piaf is dramatised by dark lights and costumes identical to those worn by Piaf. No sooner does she have the audience sighing for "La Piaf," than she switches to a light-hearted impersonation of Charlie Chaplin. Ms. Duparc is backed by the music of Ignazio Di Lietto who will appear on Damascus TV at 7:45 p.m. Sunday on Mouna Kundi's "Stars and Light Show." In the nearby rooftop bar, Aldo and Jacqueline entertain with an international repertoire of ballads.

FILMS

SATURDAY, Feb. 10 and MONDAY, Feb. 12: "Les Etoiles de Midi," a film directed by Marcel Ichac starring Lionel Terray and Roger Blin, is scheduled for 7:30 p.m. at the French Cultural Centre (in French, Arabic sub-titles).

SUNDAY, Feb. 11: "The Place of the Crime in Berlin" is the title of a film to be shown at 6:30 p.m. at the German Democratic Republic Cultural Centre (in German, Arabic sub-titles).

MONDAY, Feb. 12: "The Demise of a Poet," will be shown at 6 p.m. at the Soviet Cultural Centre (in Russian, Arabic sub-titles).

MONDAY, Feb. 12 and TUESDAY, Feb. 13: Two colour British literature films, "Shakespeare" and "This Unworthy Scaffold", will be shown at 7:30 p.m. at the new corner premises of the British Cultural Centre Library. Tickets must be obtained in advance from the cultural centre from 8:30 a.m. to 6 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, Feb. 14: "The First and Last Day" will be shown at 6 p.m. at the Soviet Cultural Centre (in Russian, Arabic sub-titles).

THURSDAY, Feb. 15: "Sept Morts sur Ordonnance," directed by Jacques Roffio starring Michel Piccoli, Gerard Depardieu and Marisa Vlad, is slated for 7:30 p.m. at the French Cultural Centre (in French, Arabic sub-titles).

FRIDAY, Feb. 16: "A Bar in Biatinskaya Street" will be shown at 6 p.m. at the Soviet Cultural Centre (in Russian, Arabic sub-titles).

Jordan to get ILO help for labour data bank

By Serene R. Farraj
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN--The International Labour Organisation (ILO) has vowed to send administrative and financial experts to Jordan to help the country establish its social security

for the handicapped. The ILO also cooperates with the Ministry of Tourism in the field of preparing personnel for work in hotels and restaurants in accordance with modern tourism concepts.

An expert in international agreements will be sent by the ILO to Jordan to advise on the compatibility of the Jordanian labour legislation "because the more we work for the improvement of this legislation, the more we raise the standard of our labourers, for Jordan has traditionally been a supplier of skilled manpower to the Arab World," Mr. Ajlouni said.

This year, Jordan will appoint labour attachés in two Gulf states to ensure good working conditions for Jordanian employees. This was agreed during Mr. Ajlouni's recent visit to Qatar which aimed at strengthening cooperation between the Jordan and the Gulf states in the field of social affairs and labour.

"Three experts will also be sent to Jordan by the ILO to help the ministry of labour establish the labour data bank which will conduct research on the distribution of manpower in the Arab World to help gear training more closely to the actual needs of society," Mr. Ajlouni said.

The data bank is still incomplete but will be ready to operate by the time the social security institute begins to function.

The Ministry of Labour has already begun collecting information on labour as well as constructing a wage index with the help of the Central Bank. Statistics are being compiled on the number and specialisations of Jordanians working here and abroad.

Also discussed during Mr. Blanchard's visit was the "possibility of setting up a regional vocational training centre which would conduct research on manpower," Mr. Ajlouni said, "and formulate model programmes for vocational training institutes in the Arab countries. It was agreed in principle that Jordan would sponsor a draft resolution on this subject at the meeting of the Arab Labour Organisation to be held in Khartoum this March." The resolution would be presented to the ILO conference in Geneva later this year.

It was agreed the ILO will help to set up six vocational training centres at an estimated minimum cost of JD 6 million. The European Common Market, United States and Soviet Union will each provide technical trainers and equipment for two centres. Mr. Ajlouni said.

Cooperation between the Ministry of Labour and the ILO covers extensive labour as well as social development. The ILO has helped to set up a Women's Department within the Ministry of Labour and through the Department of Social Affairs in the ministry has helped to establish a centre

theoretical stage. Mr. Ajlouni said, to discussions of the best methods of implementation. The purpose of the labour body is to draw resources from labour importing countries and channel them into developing labour exporting countries in proportion to the estimated costs due to loss of labour.

The King, accompanied by the Commander-in-Chief of the Jordanian Armed Forces Lt. Gen Sharif Zeid Ibn Shaker, later visited the commemorative monument erected on the spot where the Queen died in a helicopter crash two years ago.

King Hussein visits Queen Alia's tomb

AMMAN, Feb. 9 (JNA)-- His Majesty King Hussein today visited the tomb of the late Queen Alia on the second anniversary of her death and recited verses of the Quran.

The King, accompanied by the Commander-in-Chief of the Jordanian Armed Forces Lt. Gen Sharif Zeid Ibn Shaker, later visited the commemorative monument erected on the spot where the Queen died in a helicopter crash two years ago.

Jordanian team to attend meeting in South Korea

AMMAN, Feb. 9 (JNA)--Jordan is to take part in the meeting of the legal advisory committee for Asian and African countries which will open in South Korea on Feb. 19. According to a decision by the Cabinet, the Under-secretary of the Ministry of Justice Han i Rifa'i will lead the two-man delegation to the week-long meeting.

Canadian delegation visits Martyr's Monument

AMMAN, Feb. 9 (JNA)--The visiting delegation from the National Defence College of Canada today paid a visit to the Martyrs' Monument. Touring the various sections of the monument the delegation was acquainted with the history of the Jordanian Armed Forces.

TODAY'S WEATHER

A low depression centred in Cyprus is moving eastward causing cloudy and rainy weather with a chance of thunderstorms in the southern region. Winds will be southwesterly moderate to fresh. In Aqaba it will be partly cloudy with thunder showers and southerly fresh winds changing gradually to northerly moderate. Seas will be rough.

Temperatures:

	Overnight minimum	Daytime maximum
Amman	6	10
Aqaba	10	16
Jordan Valley	11	16
Deserts	5	12

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Buchan's multifarious talents

By Keith Brace

John Buchan, the once immensely popular Scottish writer of adventure stories who became Governor General of Canada, has recently come back into the public eye—39 years after his death in 1940.

A recent BBC television serial of his novel, "Huntingtower", and a new cinema version—the third—with Robert Powell as the hero, Richard Hannay, of his famous spy story, "The 39 Steps", the works of the Scottish novelist, biographer and statesman John Buchan are enjoying a new wave of interest.

With the production by the BBC of a television serial of his novel, "Huntingtower", and yet another film version of his great spy story "The 39 Steps", the works of the Scottish novelist, biographer and statesman John Buchan are enjoying a new wave of interest.

Buchan a nostalgic pleasure in stories about decisive men of action, outwitting corrupt (though courageous) enemies, and a longing for days when a writer could let his heroes range through a whole empire in their battles against evil.

John Buchan was born in 1875, the son of Scottish nonconformist minister, and educated at the universities of Glasgow and Oxford. In 1901 he became a barrister and later private secretary to Lord Milner, Britain's High Commissioner in South Africa, just after the Boer War. This experience gave Buchan a life long sense of the exciting possibilities, as he thought, of the British Empire as a power for good.

He returned to England to become a publisher, a Member of Parliament, a peer of the realm; and finally a popular Governor General of Canada, where he died in office, aged 65.

During his time in Canada he became a confidant of President Franklin Roosevelt and he is thought to have had some role in persuading the president to make an open declaration of support for the Western countries in the event of war with Nazi Germany.

Despite his busy public and private life, Buchan wrote more than 100 books, among them "Prester John" (1910), about a mythical ruler of Ethiopia; "Huntingtower" (1922); "The Thirty-Nine Steps" (1915); "Greenmantle" (1916); and "The Three Hostages" (1924). His life of Cromwell (1934) keeps its relevance as a sympathetic study of the most controversial figure in

British history.

Buchan was in the news again in 1975 when the 100th anniversary of his birth was marked by many appreciative comments—and by some hostile ones. For Buchan, very much a man of his self-confident, enterprising epoch in British history, has always been a figure of controversy.

He has been linked with novelist contemporaries such as "Sapper", Dornford Yates and Rafael Sabatini, and condemned as a jingoistic, reactionary writer unacceptable to the modern liberal.

Others have refuted the reactionary image and found in him a much deeper writer than his popular reputation suggests: a Calvinistic Lowland Scottish writer, in the tradition of Walter Scott and Robert Louis Stevenson, charting the frontier at which, as Buchan often said and wrote, the thin defences of civilisation crumble.

Charges of aggressive imperialism have been answered by his impeccable views on the Commonwealth and its peoples when he was Governor General of Canada, and by the fact that he was able to give a dignified picture of Kaiser Wilhelm II during the anti-German hysteria of 1914-18.

The reality was that Buchan was an average man of his time and position in society, sharing his prejudices and ambitions without worrying too much about them. His interest for us today is that he was a characteristic writer of his period—which we can recapture through his books—as well as, arguably, as a writer of permanent value.

Like other writers of the time, and with his Calvinistic background, he saw life as a difficult journey, beset with trials and dangers. But he tended to see that journey as one to a better and sharper understanding of the human predicament and to a stoical acceptance of it, rather than as a journey to a reformed society, as

the political writers of the 1930s would have seen it.

He saw the world as Manichean, in a perpetual conflict of light and dark, with his heroes forsaking their comfortable London clubs and cosy suburban villas to do battle with international villains in dark places, using unlikely allies, such as apparently effete young army officers, or the Glasgow slum boys in "Huntingtower".

The two world wars did not prove to be the decisive victories of light over dark that Buchan had

John Buchan, the Scottish novelist, biographer and statesman, whose stories are enjoying a new wave of popularity. Buchan, who died in 1940, was created Baron Tweedsmuir in 1935 and became Governor General of Canada.



Robert Powell as the character hero Richard Hannay in the latest film version of John Buchan's "Thirty-Nine Steps". Buchan wrote his famous spy adventure story in 1915.

predicted in his stories. The world today is not Manichean, but an extraordinary complex of shades of good and evil, and it is not always easy to think oneself back into the strong, melodramatic certainties of Buchan's writings.

But the basic Buchan situation still keeps its excitement: the hero leaving his safe manor house, stepping out to meet the enemy on a Scottish moor on a radiant June morning, his heart and senses beating with expectation. We do not get too much of that in novels these days.



Elephant that transplants

LONDON—Transplanting trees was done in the hanging gardens of Babylon where, it is believed, elephants were used to haul trees out of the ground and then carry them to their new spot. A British company has recently introduced its own 'technological elephant' that will dig out a tree and its roots in a simple, efficient and easily transportable form... all in a few minutes. Called the 'Tree-Porter', the equipment is placed around the root of a tree and a series of toughened steel curved blades are forced hydraulically around the tree's root-ball in the shape of half a sphere. When the root is totally encircled blades are locked together and the complete tree and roots are then lifted by an accompanying vehicle and transported to a new site. Here, the tree is set into its new hole, blades recovered for use. The equipment and compact and can hold seven sizes ranging from 80 cm. to 2 metres in diameter, determined by number of blades it has. It will dig a row close as one metre and the edge of a root can be within 50 cm. of another tree or root. The 'Tree-Porter' is plied with an initial blades of two bits, permitting up to 80 cm. to be dug and transported in a single load. (Courtesy of Information)

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Carter tries to stem conflicting reports on government policy

WASHINGTON, Feb. 9 (R)—President Carter, worried that impromptu statements by administration officials might cause misunderstandings about his policies at home and abroad, has called in his top men to demand their loyalty—and apparently told them to stop squabbling.

But while the White House disclosed last night that Mr. Carter was trying to crack down on unauthorized statements, two of his senior ministers were at loggerheads over the energy situation caused by the Iranian oil crisis.

And outspoken U.N. Ambassador Andrew Young earned himself an official rebuke for telling reporters that Iranian Moslem leader Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini might eventually be regarded as a saint.

Presidential spokesman Jody Powell's announcement that Mr. Carter has held a series of meetings with his chief advisers over the last few days followed press reports of policy conflicts between the White House and the State Department.

The Washington Post reported: "One of the White House meetings appeared to some of those present to reflect growing concern that reports of differences between Secretary of State Vance and National Security Adviser Zbigniew Brzezinski are creating the impression of an adminis-

tration that is divided and indecisive."

The newspaper said Mr. Carter had ordered top ranking State Department officials to "silence dissent that could spill over into public view."

Department spokesman Hodding Carter said that Secretary of State Cyrus Vance and senior foreign policy officials had attended one of the meetings with the president.

Foreign policy problems were discussed and Mr. Carter "asked for support from the department in all aspects of the process," the spokesman said.

Both Mr. Powell and spokesman Carter insisted that the President was not out to silence his officials or stop dissent. The president, Mr. Powell said, was concerned not about the number of leaks "but by the number of inaccuracies."

Mr. Vance later told reporters Mr. Carter was not trying to muzzle or gag State Department and other officials from speaking to the press. "He was just expres-

Zaire: Cardinal's home guarded following raid

BRUSSELS, Feb. 9 (R)—Police in Zaire are guarding the Archbishop of Kinshasa, Cardinal Joseph Malula, following a raid on his home by a gang of 20 armed men, a Belgian Catholic news agency reported today.

Members of the gang stormed into the cardinal's bedroom at one a.m. last Wednesday. They did not harm him but drove away with money, radio and television sets, and the cardinal's private car, the agency said.

Senate committee divided over security guarantees

U.S. Congress delays Taiwan legislation

WASHINGTON, Feb. 9 (R)—President Carter's timetable for normalizing diplomatic relations with communist China seemed likely to go awry today as Congress tried to work out security guarantees for Taiwan.

The administration agreed to exchange ambassadors on March 1 and had hoped by then to have legislation in place which would put U.S. relations with Taiwan on an unofficial footing.

But the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, divided over what security guarantees should be extended to the nationalists, yesterday put off action on drafting a bill until Feb. 20. The delay clouded hopes that the Senate could act on the bill before March 1 and there was virtually no likelihood that both the Senate and the House of Representatives could meet this deadline.

Yesterday Republican Senator Jesse Helms of North Carolina added to President Carter's problems by announcing that he would try and block Senate confirmation of Leonard Woodcock as the first U.S. ambassador to Peking in 30 years until the Senate settled the Taiwan issue.

Senator Helms was using a Senate courtesy rule that allows any member to hold up confirmation or legislation. But it was not clear how successful he would be in delaying the Woodcock confirmation. The conservative senator was the only member of the Foreign Rela-

ssing some of his concerns to us about various matters and asking our help and cooperation."

Top officials at odds

But in Congress, Treasury Secretary Michael Blumenthal accused Energy Secretary James Schlesinger of helping to push up the price of gold and drive down the value of the dollar in foreign exchange markets with remarks about the Iranian oil crisis.

Mr. Blumenthal told a Senate Budget Committee hearing that Mr. Schlesinger's statement on Wednesday that the Iranian crisis was potentially more serious than the 1973-74 Arab oil embargo had caused unnecessarily exaggerated reactions in the stock and gold markets. He said Mr. Schlesinger's statement was "clearly the type of thing that causes people to run to gold."

While he was being criticised, Mr. Schlesinger said elsewhere in Congress that he did not expect Iran to resume oil exports for many months. "The gradual slide of Iran toward chaos is continuing," he said in response to a question. "I do not see at this juncture the restoration of exports for many months at best."

At the same time, the White House was handing out another rebuke to Mr. Carter's most controversial diplomat, U.N. envoy Andrew Young, for declaring at a press conference: "I'm willing to bet that Khomeini will be thought some kind of saint when we...look to see what his ideas really mean."

Mr. Powell responded: "It is President Carter's view that the United States is not in the canonisation business." He added that Mr. Young "is not in position to make such judgments".

In Britain, several major oil companies announced reductions in crude oil supplies despite the country's North Sea oil deposits.

British Energy Secretary Tony

Benn has asked consumers to exercise restraint and said he hoped oil companies would not take on new business which might further deplete supplies.

British Petroleum Oil Company

has said it will cut crude supplies by 45 per cent. Exxon Corporation is planning a ten per cent cut and the Royal Dutch Shell

Britons told to prepare for long strike by public service workers

LONDON, Feb. 9 (R)—Britons were under notice today to prepare for a long strike by public service workers who already have reduced hospitals to emergency-only services and closed hundreds of schools. And striking dustmen have let piles of rubbish mount in central London.

The more than one million low-paid public service workers are demanding pay rises of at least 16 per cent, almost twice the government offer of 8.8 per cent, and have threatened to strike for six months to get it.

As if to stress the government's intent to hold down inflation—if not by curbing wages then by controlling the money supply—the Bank of England yesterday announced an increase in the minimum lending rate to 14 per cent from 12.5 per cent. The rise was expected to soon translate into higher interest rates and hit workers getting home mortgages or financing new cars.

In addition to the strike-bitten hospitals and schools, grave-diggers have left bodies unburied and some local government offices are closed, leaving documents untyped, unfiled and unposted. Water and sewerage workers have also threatened a strike, which could force the government to call out troops to avert a health crisis.

Adding more to the government's troubles was the threat of an all out strike at the state-owned British Leyland car company.

About 20,000 workers at Leyland's Birmingham plant walked off the assembly line when they heard promised pay rises were called off because they had failed to reach productivity goals.

Other plants of Leyland, however, voted to continue work, and the final company-wide outcome will not be known until Monday.

World News Briefs

Rhodesian bandits pose as guerrillas

SALISBURY, Feb. 9 (R)—Black bandits armed with realisation weapons and posing as nationalist guerrillas last night attacked a Rhodesian tourist hotel, police and military authorities said. They burned down an African staff compound at the Lodge Hotel in the Vumba Mountains of eastern Rhodesia. The premises and fired a shotgun at the white manager and slightly wounding the man, police said. As Rhodesia's guerrilla intensifies, and law and order crumbles in many parts of the country, it is becoming increasingly difficult to discern whether the guerrillas are genuine guerrillas, military sources said. Several have been staged by young blacks with imitation weapons, guerrillas, they said.

Greece, EEC discuss terms for membership

ATHENS, Feb. 9 (R)—Common Market Vice President Nataki today discussed with Greek Premier Constantine Karamanlis final terms for Greece's entry into the Community. Mr. Nataki arrived here yesterday for a two-day visit, told reporters that certain the treaty of accession between Greece and the EEC will be signed in the first half of this year. Greece and the EEC members reached an accord in Brussels last December on a Greek entry. Greece has been an associate member of the Common Market since 1961. The accord ended two years of negotiations. Greece expects to sign a treaty of accession in March or April to become the tenth EEC member in 1981.

Italy ups jail term of Brigades leaders

MILAN, Italy, Feb. 9 (R)—An appeal court has increased the sentence on convicted Red Brigades guerrilla leader Renato Bruson from seven years to 12 years. Mr. Bruson, who masterminded the gang's "war against the state" before his capture, died in prison last year. The sentence was imposed for possession of arms and attempting to kill a policeman during his arrest in 1975, already serving a 15-year term. It was not immediately clear whether the new sentence would run consecutively or concurrently. He has also been sentenced to 18 months for praising the Red Brigades' murderers of former Italian prime minister Aldo Moro and to one year for writing articles in a radical magazine urging workers to smash factory machines.

Da Vinci's "Last Supper" to be restored

MILAN, Italy, Feb. 9 (R)—Italy will spend \$600,000 on restoration of Leonardo da Vinci's mural "Last Supper" in a church where it is housed, Culture Minister Dario Argento yesterday. The Leonardo fresco has been touched up and often clumsily, countless times since the Renaissance artist completed it in 1497. But restoration has never been entirely successful. The mural has faded in parts and has flaked because of

Mediterranean states trim fund for anti-pollution programme

GENEVA, Feb. 9 (R)—The

Mediterranean coastal states decided yesterday to spend \$3.2 million over the next two years to help clean up their sea, with France supplying nearly half the amount.

The decision was taken by 18 coastal states attending the first meeting in Geneva of the contracting parties on three anti-pollution treaties covering the Mediterranean signed in Barcelona in 1976.

Last December the United States, Guatemala and the Dominican Republic proposed a plebiscite under international administration and supervision. The Opposition From accepted the proposal but General Somosa's governing Nationalist Liberal Party rejected it and mediation was suspended.

ing for their week in Geneva," noted one delegate.

Albania, Cyprus, Monaco and Malta, for example, have pledged about \$2,560 each, while Syria and Tunisia will give \$5,120 each.

France will contribute over \$1.48 million, but the French have sought to have some of the programme cut.

UNEP has been trying to reduce gradually its own contributions, which since the Mediterranean anti-pollution "action plan" was launched in 1975 has amounted to \$7.3 million against only \$335,000 put up by the governments.

UNEP executive director Mostafa Tolba had lobbied this gathering

to continue the negotiations at Barcelona "and to meet their financial responsibilities."

UNEP will add to its agreed yesterday, "as organisations such as the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund will also contribute."

The final sum will not be known until tomorrow.

Many of the countries contributing to the programme are by tomorrow, which will be followed by a pollution programme to match the cut in funding.

The countries must

by tomorrow, which will be followed by a pollution programme to match the cut in funding.

British oil: A little too late?

By the end of this year Britain will be self-sufficient in oil. But it will not be in time, and there will not be enough revenue from it for the government to use it as a trump card in the forthcoming elections, argues Financial Times commentator Jeremy Morgan.

respected brokers in Edinburgh, have just coolly chopped £1 billion from their previous estimate of the overall North Sea oil benefit to this year's balance of payments.

A year ago, the firm's experts said that the gain would be running at an annual rate of around £4 billion by the end of this year. But now, they think about £3 billion.

lion this year is more likely, because of reduced production estimates and higher operating and development costs at British oil and gas fields.

Furthermore, it is now believed that the day when Britain can enjoy a £5 billion per year North Sea oil bonus to the balance of payments will not arrive until the

middle of 1984—at least two years later than last year's forecast had suggested.

All this is certainly bleak news for Prime Minister James Callaghan at the beginning of what is unavoidably going to be an election year. For some time, it has been looked as if his biggest and brightest vote-catcher would be a somewhat debatable claim that the worst of Britain's economic woes were now over.

North Sea oil, and its increasingly favourable impact on the balance of payments, was going to be the government's electoral trump card. After all, it was not so long ago that predictions were freely bandied about that the economic benefits of the oil would begin to filter through in 1978—and virtually guarantee a clean balance sheet this year.

While the latest projections are hardly disastrous, they are probably sufficiently unexciting to set minds wondering just how big a plus North Sea oil is going to be, when it will arrive and how long it is going to last.

If anything, it could be argued for this and other reasons that both reports might very well turn out to have been good news for the nation in the long run.

For a start, a rate of growth in British oil output which is slower than the government originally hoped for might carry less risk of over-heating the economy at a time when the world is entering yet another recession.

Smaller oil revenues might also help minimise the temptation to governments of all shades of political opinion to buy themselves out of the trough. And a more gradual and less ambitious expansion in oil

production would obviously stretch out Britain's highly finite oil and gas reserves—apart from coincidentally offering the opportunity to improve extraction rates from existing fields.

Forgetting their implications for Mr. Callaghan and his political advisers for the moment, both reports in fact make quite reasonable reading.

Both regard 1979 as the year when North Sea oil will at last provide tangible economic benefits for Britain, after years of massive capital expenditure. Hoare Govett suggests that the cost of equipping offshore oilfields in British waters peaked last year at £2.35 billion and is now declining, to £2.12 billion this year and £1.93 billion by 1983.

Meanwhile, oil's net contribution to the current account is expected to double this year's total in 1980—when the oil revenue impact is forecast to total £2.64 billion—as it rapidly climbs to a projected £10.38 billion by 1983.

There is no suggestion that Britain will not achieve the widely hoped-for target of oil self-sufficiency either late this year or in early 1980, despite lower production.

However, Wood, Mackenzie does warn that the cost of operating, rather than developing, North Sea oilfields will continue to rise—from an estimated overall total of \$1.5 billion this year to around \$2.8 billion in 1985. Previous estimates have pitched operating costs at \$1.2 billion this year, and \$2.5 billion in six years' time.

Against that, Britain's high grade crude oil is currently fetch-

ing prices somewhat higher than had been forecast—and can expect to carry on doing so in the near future, particularly if political unrest in Iran continues to disrupt supplies from that country.

Although North Sea "spot" oil prices have come off the top in recent weeks—late last year's quotes of \$16 or \$16.50 a barrel were reported in Rotterdam, compared with a 1978 price of \$12.70 a barrel on OPEC's Saudi Arabian light crude market—they are still quite a bit higher than the experts' bad forecast.

Wood, Mackenzie, at present estimate that prices for North Sea crude are settling down at between \$15.30 and \$15.80 a barrel for the first quarter of this year, compared with OPEC's revised marker of \$13.33 a barrel. The average North Sea oil price for the year as a whole is pitched at around \$15.50 a barrel.

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There is no suggestion that Britain will not achieve the widely hoped-for target of oil self-sufficiency either late this year or in early 1980, despite lower production.

Estimates vary, but it is suggested that drilling activity last year declined by between a third and 40 per cent compared with the peak years of 1974-77. Ultimately, this might not matter very much—except that development costs are almost bound to escalate over the years, meaning that delays could turn out to be rather expensive.

However, none of this will mean that Britain is likely to find itself short of oil during at least the next five years. About half the oil

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